



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: James R. Helmer

**SUBJECT: VTA COMMUNITY DESIGN AND
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM**

DATE: 02-04-04

Approved

Date

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide
SNI AREA: N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Amend Resolution No. 65459 to support the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's Community Design and Transportation Program.

BACKGROUND

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's (VTA) countywide long-range transportation plan, Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2020, includes land use strategies designed to promote the goals of improving the efficiency of the County's transportation systems as well as the overall quality of life for residents, workers and visitors alike. VTA's Community Design and Transportation (CDT) Program is a compilation of transportation and land use "Best Practices" intended to enhance the way communities are planned, designed, funded and built.

ANALYSIS

In September 2003, the San José City Council was the first city to adopt a resolution (resolution no. 65459) in support of the CDT Program and commit to the program's guidelines. As other local jurisdictions adopted the CDT program guidelines VTA staff identified certain technical modifications that would reinforce each jurisdiction's commitment to CDT Program direction. As a result, VTA staff was able to develop a standardized resolution in support of the program that accommodates consistent application throughout Santa Clara County. The modified resolution more accurately describes the program's requirements and more clearly depicts the extent of each city's participation. Attachment A is a revised version of the resolution, which includes the appropriate technical modifications.

Staff recommends adoption of the modified resolution in support of the CDT program. The key City commitments contained in the resolution include the following:

- Use the CDT Best Practices for the development of public projects and the review of private projects
- Identify opportunities to provide multi-modal transportation systems as part of General Plans, Specific Plans and Community Plans
- Target future growth along major transportation corridors and transit station areas
- Seek partnerships with VTA and neighboring jurisdictions to address regional transportation issues

It is noted that VTA has established four grant programs that are associated with the CDT Program. Endorsement of the CDT Program by member agencies is required in order to apply for the following program funds, CDT Planning Grant Program, Livable Communities and Pedestrian Capital Grant Program, Local Streets and County Roads Program, and the Bicycle Program.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

VTA developed the CDT Best Practices program in coordination with local jurisdictions in Santa Clara County, private development representatives and transportation interest groups.

COORDINATION

This item has been coordinated with the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement and the City Attorney's Office.

COST IMPLICATIONS

Although there are no cost implications associated with the CDT program, VTA plans to tie grant funds that it administers to the program. Therefore, cities that adopt the CDT and have projects that embody the Best Practice standards will have scoring advantages over cities and projects that do not.

CEQA

Not a project

JAMES R. HELMER
Director of Transportation

Attachment